

BELGIUM NOW ONE VAST GRAVEYARD

Jarvis E. Bell Says It Is Impossible to Exaggerate Misery of Country.

COMPLETE PARALYSIS IN MANY DISTRICTS

Representative of American Relief Commission Tells of Arrival of Supplies.

London, Nov. 13.—Jarvis E. Bell, of New York, who, on behalf of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium, assisted in the distribution of the first cargo of relief supplies sent to the Belgians, has given a description of conditions in the stricken country. Mr. Bell said:

"Nothing that has been written could exaggerate the misery of Belgium. We drove for miles through graveyards. Stakes, on some of which were soldiers' tattered coats and helmets, were the tombstones—deserted fields are cemeteries. As we entered the villages women and children sought refuge in the ruins of roofless homes, terrified lest we were some fresh visitation of war. Their faces were drawn and lined, and if you could only see the gruesome surroundings in which they are struggling for existence you would not wonder that they fall to smile.

"The Belgian peasants had in many districts no home in which to sleep, so seed to sow, no implement with which to work, no transport to reach a market, and finally no heart to struggle against the impossible. It is unbelievable that war ever produced such a complete and tragic paralysis as we saw in many parts of Belgium. It cannot be attributed to lack of courage on the part of the civilian population or to the inhumanity of the conqueror. It is simply war up to date—civilized, Christian war.

Relief Steamer Arrives.

"The American relief steamer *Columbia*, carrying more than one thousand tons of foodstuffs, arrived at Rotterdam from London at 3 o'clock Sunday morning. The Dutch government, with great kindness, made an exception to the rigid rule against working on Sunday. The labor unions made equal concessions, with the result that on Monday morning eight barges, towed by four express tugs, left Rotterdam en route for Brussels with relief supplies. On each barge was a large printed notice certifying that the cargo had been sent by the American commission in care of the American minister to Belgium. On the door of the captain's cabin on each barge was a copy of General von der Goltz's proclamation instructing all German officials to give safe conduct and assistance to the American relief cargo. General von der Goltz is German military governor of Belgium.

"The crews of the barges and tugs were Dutch, and each man carried

with no little pride, an order for safe conduct from the German authorities, permitting him to go to Brussels and return unmolested to Holland.

"Accompanied by M. M. Langhorne, secretary of the American Legation at Brussels, and Mr. Wyman, an American resident, in an automobile, I followed this odd flotilla of mercy as it threaded its way from canal to canal and from lock to lock. At Hanswert, a town on the Belgian-Dutch frontier, I anticipated some difficulties as to this first consignment of relief. On the coast were German officials were fully informed, and there was no delay whatever.

Sealed Hatches Never Opened.

"From thence to Brussels the German arrangements for getting our cargo through expediently were perfect. The sealed hatches of the barges were never opened or touched all the way to Antwerp, Malines and Brussels.

"The country people came running to the banks of the canals, where they stared at our flotilla as if it were a miracle. For a week not a single barge had passed where formerly there were a dozen.

"To the Belgian country folk it was at first just a God-sent dream to remind them of the peaceful days preceding the nightmare of war. When they found that there were real barges bearing food their great thankfulness found ready expression.

"On Wednesday morning, just one week after the ship left London, we drove up in front of the American Legation in Brussels and told Brand Whitlock, the American minister to Belgium, that the relief barges were safely moored in a pocket of the main canal. A few minutes later Mr. Whitlock's automobile brought the Marquis de Villahar, the Spanish minister, and the heads of the Belgian Central Relief Committee. The marquis was all enthusiasm. He grasped my hand, exclaiming: 'What splendid news! You take a thing in hand you certainly do and do it quickly.'

News Spreads Quickly.

"There was no need for the newspapers to spread the report of our arrival. In one hour all Brussels knew and rejoiced. Many people had feared that we would never get the food into Belgium, and that if we did we would not get by the wall of soldiers surrounding Brussels.

"We drove back to Holland by way of Louvain, Aerschot and Thourout to Breda on the Dutch frontier. We found several villages in the Limburg district that had been without salt for a month. At almost every bridge we met men with boxes soliciting relief from travellers from more fortunate districts. This looks like begging, but there are some conditions justifying anything. We met few Belgian men. Eighty per cent of the people in these country districts are women and children. We saw them eating green vegetables, beets and apples. They had little else.

"There were thousands of children, all afraid to laugh. Like their mothers, they seemed spellbound by the melancholy fascination of the ruins in which they found shelter. The contrast between them and the contented young German soldier is appalling.

"The Germans, who throughout treated us with the greatest courtesy and consideration, knew the rule against working on Sunday. The labor unions made equal concessions, with the result that on Monday morning eight barges, towed by four express tugs, left Rotterdam en route for Brussels with relief supplies. On each barge was a large printed notice certifying that the cargo had been sent by the American commission in care of the American minister to Belgium. On the door of the captain's cabin on each barge was a copy of General von der Goltz's proclamation instructing all German officials to give safe conduct and assistance to the American relief cargo. General von der Goltz is German military governor of Belgium.

"The crews of the barges and tugs were Dutch, and each man carried

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When Wealthy Americans Felt the Pinch of Poverty

Richard Harding Davis was right in the midst of all the great confusion which for a time surrounded the American embassies just after war was declared.

He saw wealthy Americans actually moneyless—without even a single franc piece to buy a meal. He saw thousands of Americans without a bed to sleep in. He saw friends separated and frantic mothers and fathers seeking lost children.

Then like a loyal friend Uncle Sam's Foreign Service turned all the suffering into gladness. Davis brings out the lights and shadows of these days of excitement in his third great article

TO-MORROW IN

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DISTRESS SIGNALS CAUGHT THE EMDEN

Cocos Island Called for Help When the German Cruiser Appeared.

WIRELESS APPEAL HEARD BY SYDNEY

Australian Warship Reached Scene Before Enemy Could Destroy the Cable.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Sydney, Nov. 13.—The Melbourne branch of the Eastern Telegraph Company's cable extension has made the following statement:

"The staff at Cocos Island were aware that they were under the protection of the Admiralty, although warships are seldom seen in that vicinity. Recently, however, the fact became apparent that protection had been withdrawn, because wireless messages were not answered. We had an idea that this was part of a large strategic scheme, and consequently no uneasiness was felt until a foreign warship was seen bearing down upon the island. There is a lagoon on the north side, which provides an approach only for small boats. Large steamers cannot enter, on account of the irregularity of the channel and the dangerous rocks.

"The German cruiser *Emden* stood off about two or three miles from shore, and, as already announced, forty men were sent ashore. As soon as there was no doubt that the station was menaced by a foreign warship, the wireless station dispatched the signal 'S. O. S. Cocos.' These were constantly repeated, and it seems the many calls were picked up by the Australian cruiser *Sydney*.

"A remarkable feature is that the *Emden*, which must have known that distress signals were being sent, did not drop a shell as she approached with a view to dismantling the wireless mast.

"While the distress signals were being sent out a rush message was sent by cable to the navy office in Melbourne, which certainly acted very promptly on the information given.

"As soon as the landing party had stepped ashore they proceeded to cut the cable and began to put it out of action, but as the result of long experience the Eastern Telegraph Company has been able to baffle raiders, to some extent, and special precautions, which, of course, cannot be indicated, were taken in this case.

"While the party were engaged in smashing the instruments the *Sydney* was seen approaching, and the men took to their boats to rejoin the cruiser. But the *Emden's* captain apparently decided it was too risky to wait to pick them up, and moved off to the open sea.

"The landing party, left behind, returned to shore and remained until the night passed. They stayed until night, when they seized the schooner *Ayesha*, of about forty tons, belonging to Mr. Ross, owner of the island, and sailed away.

"Dr. Ollerhead, the company's doctor at Cocos Island, formerly a well known practitioner in London, did good work in association with two doctors from the *Sydney* in attending the *Emden's* wounded.

"The actual fight between the *Sydney* and the *Emden* took place within sight of the cable staff.

"Before leaving in the commandeer schooner a substantial food supply, but this is not likely to embarrass the cable staff, as Captain von Muller was considerate enough to order that the condenser and refrigerator should be spared."

BRITAIN WATCHES COAL FROM U. S.

Suspects Germans Are Getting It in South American Waters.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Nov. 13.—Although no official protest has been filed with the State Department, the British government, it was learned to-day, is investigating the shipment of coal from this country to South American ports, because of the suspicion that German warships are being supplied with coal. Thus far the British government will only admit that it is "suspicious" of the destination of several cargoes of coal. It believes that German warships in South American waters have received coal from neutral ships while at sea.

The British and French governments are insistent on having the South American republics maintain absolute neutrality. It is understood to be the belief of the British and French governments that because of the large German interests in South America German warships have been enabled to get their supplies in those countries with little difficulty. Ecuador and Colombia have been warned already by the British and French governments.

The Chilean Ambassador called at the State Department to-day and protested to Secretary Bryan that Chile was using every means to preserve absolute neutrality. He said that the charges made in London that the government of Chile was lax in its precautions and had allowed German warships to obtain supplies were without foundation.

The Argentine Ambassador was also a caller at the State Department to-day. It was said that he had called on Mr. Bryan to discuss the obtaining of ships to carry on Argentina's export trade. He also discussed the interference with Argentina's commerce by belligerents. The presence of German warships in South American waters has had a depressing effect upon the export trade of Argentina.

RUSSIA FORBIDS LUMBER EXPORTS

Washington, Nov. 13.—Exportation of lumber of all kinds has been forbidden by the Russian government. The embargo specifically mentions Caucasian walnut, much prized by American furniture makers.

NO TYPHOID AMONG GERMAN PRISONERS

London, Nov. 13.—In reply to the charge made by the *Frankfurter Zeitung* that forty-six German prisoners had died in England from pneumonia and typhoid fever, it is officially stated that there have been only five deaths among the prisoners. One death was due to natural causes, the statement says. There has been no typhoid fever or pneumonia.

Official Report of French War Office

Paris, Nov. 13.—The following official communication was issued to-night:

"From the sea to the Lys the German action has not been so strong, and on some parts of the front we ourselves have taken the offensive.

"We have progressed to the south of Bixchoote.

"At the east of Ypres we have taken by a counter-attack a village which had been lost.

"At the south of Ypres we have repulsed an offensive movement of the Prussian Guard.

"On the other part of the front only cannonades are mentioned."

"The statement issued earlier in the day says:

"From the sea coast as far as the Lys the fighting has been of a less violent character than on previous days. Several efforts of the Germans to cross the Yser Canal, at the western outlet from Dixmude and at the eastern outlet in the Amont district, were checked. Generally speaking, our positions have been maintained without exception.

"To the north, to the east and to the south of Ypres attacks of the enemy were repulsed, at the end of the day, at different points of our line and that of the British army.

"From the region to the east of Armentieres as far as the Oise there have been artillery exchanges and actions of minor importance.

"In the course of the last few days of foggy weather our troops have not ceased to make progress, little by little. They are to-day established almost everywhere at distances varying from 300 to 500 metres from the network of barbed wire entanglements of the enemy.

"To the north of the Aisne we have taken possession of Tracy-le-Val, but with the exception of the cemetery to the northeast of this village. We have made slight progress to the east of Tracy-Mont and to the southeast of Novvion, as well as between Crouy and Vregny and to the northeast of Soissons.

"In the vicinity of Vaillay a counter-attack by the Germans delivered against those of our troops who had retaken Chavanne and Soupir was repulsed. Equal failure attended the German efforts in the environs of Berry-au-Bac.

"In the Argonne there has been a violent artillery duel.

"There has been minor progress in the vicinity of St. Mihiel and in the region of Pont-a-Mousson.

"A surprise attack delivered by our troops against the villages of Val and Chailly, near Cirey-sur-Veroux, made it possible for us to capture a detachment of the enemy.

"A German attack directed against the village of Mont Sainte Marie resulted in failure.

"It is reported that snow is beginning to fall on the heights of the Vosges mountains."

German-Austrian Official Reports

Berlin, Nov. 13 (by wireless to London).—German military headquarters gave out an official announcement to-day as follows:

"On the branch of the Yser Canal at Nieupoort our marines have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, and we have taken 700 prisoners. Continuing our attacks on Ypres, which have progressed favorably, another 1,100 prisoners have been taken.

"Fierce French attacks to the west and east of Soissons have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy.

"On the East Prussian frontier, at Eydkuhnen, and also further south to the east of the outlet of the Mazurian Lakes, fresh battles have developed, but no decision yet has been reached.

"Official reports reaching here from Vienna are as follows:

"In the eastern arena of the war the pursuit of the enemy was continued yesterday along the entire front, with incessant fighting with the rear guards of the enemy, who occupied especially prepared intrenchments. Generally speaking, the heights to the east of Czernin, Makutsehan and Novoselo, on the River Save, have been reached. The enemy is in full retreat in the direction of Kotschalveja and Valjevo, where, according to reports from Austrian aviators, many thousands of trains have been cut off.

"In addition to war material previously captured, we became possessed of fourteen ammunition wagons, several armaments and hospital depots, tents, etc. We have made numerous prisoners, the exact number of which has not yet been ascertained.

"Apart from the cavalry fighting, in which we were successful at Kosminsk, a Russian cavalry corps, no important fighting took place yesterday in the northeastern arena of the war. We repulsed one of the enemy's reconnoitering parties which was endeavoring to obtain information of our movements."

"A report from Constantinople, translated literally, reads as follows:

"With God's help the enemy has been forced to evacuate his positions and is retreating along the entire front, pursued by us on all sides."

FOUR PROFESSORS IN GERMANY KILLED

Slayer of Wife and Nephew Receives Iron Cross for Valor in Battle.

Berlin, Nov. 13.—The newspapers printed yesterday and to-day the obituary of four university professors who have just fallen in battle, showing how largely university people are participating in the active fighting.

The fallen men are Heinrich Hermling, professor of church history at Kiel; Ernst Heidrich, professor of art and history at Strassburg; Ernst Stadler, professor of German philology at Strassburg, and Professor Pricke, the head of the Hanover-Muenden Forestry Academy.

Count Matthias Brudzewo Mielzynski, the ex-member of the Reichstag, who shot his wife and nephew in his castle near Graetz in February, has received the decoration of the Iron Cross of the first class for valor in the battle of Augustowo. The Mielzynski tragedy, the result of a love affair, caused a sensation at the time of its occurrence. The count was tried on a charge of manslaughter, but was acquitted.

GERMAN AVIATORS FLY NEAR LONDON

Berlin Says They Have Passed Over Sheerness and Harwich Recently.

Berlin, Nov. 13 (by wireless to Sayville, Long Island).—According to information received from German quarters, German aviators have flown over the English seaports of Sheerness and Harwich.

Sheerness is a fortified seaport in Kent, at the mouth of the Thames. It is about forty miles from London. Harwich is in Essex, about seventy miles northeast of London.

"WE ARE BARBARIANS," SAYS GERMAN GENERAL

Von Disfurth Hopes Title Is Merited, Adding That Every Act of Kaiser's Troops Is a Good Deed and Fully Justified.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Copenhagen, Nov. 13.—An amazing exposition of German militarism is given by Major General von Disfurth in an article contributed to the *"Hamburger Nachrichten,"* in which this distinguished retired officer of the German army writes:

"No object whatever is served by taking any notice of accusations of barbarity levelled against Germany by their foreign critics. Frankly, we are and must be barbarians, if by this word we understand those who wage war relentlessly to the uttermost degree.

"It is incompatible with the dignity of the German Empire and with the proud traditions of the Prussian army to defend our courageous soldiers from accusations hurled against them in foreign and neutral countries. We owe no explanations to any one. There is nothing for us to justify and nothing to explain away. Every act, of whatever nature, committed by our troops for the purpose of discouraging, defeating and destroying our enemies is a brave act, a good deed, and fully justified.

"There is no reason whatever why we should trouble ourselves about notions concerning us in other countries. Certainly we should not worry about opinions and feelings held in neutral countries. Germany stands supreme

arbitrator of her own methods, which must in time of war be dictated to the world. It is of no consequence whatever if all the monuments ever created, all the pictures ever painted, all the buildings ever erected by the great architects of the world be destroyed, if by their destruction we promote Germany's victory over enemies who vowed her complete annihilation. In times of peace we might, perhaps, regard the loss of such things, but at the present moment not a word of regret, not a thought should be squandered upon them.

"War is war, and it must be waged with severity. The commonest, ugliest stone placed to mark the place of burial of a German grenadier is a more glorious and venerable monument than all the cathedrals in Europe put together. They call us barbarians. What of it? We scorn them and their abuse. For my part, I hope that in this war we have merited the title of barbarians."

"Let neutral peoples and our enemies cease their empty chatter, which may well be compared to the twitter of birds. Let them cease to talk of the moral degradation of all the churches and all the castles in France which have shared its fate. These things do not interest us. Our troops must achieve victory. What else matters?"

SERBS FALL BACK BEFORE AUSTRIANS BY SPIRIT OF WAR

Vienna Reports Enemy in Full Retreat After Heavy Losses.

London, Nov. 13.—A Reuter dispatch from Vienna, via Amsterdam, says:

"An official telegram from the southern war theatre states that the attacks on blockhouses and strongly fortified positions, together with the pursuit of the enemy, continued on the whole front Wednesday. The line east of Nakucani and Novoselo, on the Save River, was reached by the Austrian troops.

"The Serbians are in full retreat on Kotzieteva and Valjevo, where, according to reports from Austrian aviators, ammunition and provision cars black all the ways of communication.

"Four guns, fourteen munition cars and numerous prisoners were captured."

An official telegram from Cetinje says:

"During the last three days Austrians with heavy reinforcements attacked our entire front stationed at Canahava, endeavoring to capture important positions at Klebuk and Tiner, but though considerably greater numbers of 90,000 men, the Serbians repulsed after fierce fighting, our army fully maintaining its position."

90,000 FRENCH IN GERMAN PRISONS

Geneva, Nov. 13.—The bureau established by the Swiss government for the interchange of prisoners of war and for the transmitting of letters and money from friends of captured belligerents has on its records the names of 90,000 French prisoners in Germany, but the names of only 25,000 German prisoners in France.

From this it is assumed here that the French government is much slower in transmitting the names of the prisoners in France. This bureau forwards every day an average of 1,000 letters, and the money it transmits ranges between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

Contrary to the general idea, Professor Pares says that the cavalry played an insignificant part in the fighting in Galicia. He says the Russian troops in the Austrian army were in a very difficult position. In

several cases they fired into the air, and the attacking Russians sometimes did the same, whereupon, he says, numbers of the Russians would come over to the Serbians, who considered themselves at home in this part of Galicia.

The Cossacks, who were preceding the army, offered little violence in this field, says Professor Pares, though sometimes they were led to adopt drastic but not necessarily violent measures in dealing with certain hostile inhabitants.

BELGIAN REFUGEES GOING TO CANADA

They Fully Expect to Make It Their Permanent Home, to Escape Future Invasion.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Nov. 13.—According to Canadian immigration officials in London, a number of Belgian refugees

have gone to Canada, fully expecting to make that place their future home. It is explained that most of them have gone to Quebec, to be among the French-speaking Canadians. Belgian officials here have said that when the war is concluded an effort will be made to get all refugees to go to Belgium again, and to this end an effort has been made to have the refugees registered. One immigration official declared that some Belgians who had gone to Canada said that they were going there to make it their home, to forget, if possible, what they had been through, and so that they would never be menaced again by the invasion of their homes.

Effort is being made to enroll Belgian volunteers for the army, and as fast as this is done the list is being sent to London, and then to France. There has been a large number of discharged Belgian soldiers here, some as the result of being in broken health, but who are now able to go back. They gradually are being brought together and being sent back to France, preparatory to entering the active service.

Saks on The Homespun Virtues

¶ In the final analysis the only things that count in this world are the homespun virtues.

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